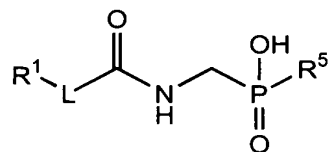


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

We claim:

1. (original) A compound of the following formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

R¹ is phenyl or thien-2-yl, each optionally substituted;

L is a covalent bond, -CH₂O-, -C(O)-, or -C(=N-OCH₃)-; and

R⁵ is -halo or -OR¹⁰ wherein R¹⁰ is phenyl, pyridinyl, or quinolinyl, each optionally substituted,

provided that when L is -CH₂O-, R⁵ is not -F or *p*-nitrophenyl.

2. (original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein the substituents are independently selected from -NO₂, -CO₂H, and halo.
3. (original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is unsubstituted.
4. (original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R⁵ is selected from:

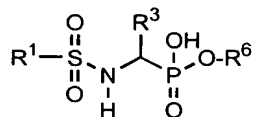
F				
			and	-H.

5. (original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹-L and R⁵ are selected from the following combinations:

R ¹ -L-	R ⁵
	PNP
	PNP
	PNP
	PNP

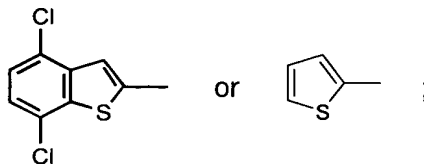
R ¹ -L-	R ⁵
and	
	-OH

6. (original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein the phosphonate moiety is replaced with a thiophosphonate moiety, provided that when R¹-L- is benzyloxy, R⁵ is not -O-PNP.
7. (original) A compound of formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

R¹ is



R^3 is -H or $-CO_2R^9$, wherein R^9 is $-C_1-C_3$ -alkyl;

R^6 is $-L^1-A(L^2-B)_s$, wherein

L^1 is C_0-C_3 -alkyl optionally mono- to per-halogenated;

A is C_3-C_6 -cycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

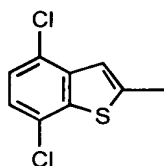
L^2 is a covalent bond or $(C_0-C_3\text{-hydrocarbyl})-X^1-(C_0-C_3\text{-hydrocarbyl})$, wherein X^1 is -
C(O)-, -NH-, -NH-C(O)-, -C(O)-NH-, or heteroaryl;

B is -H, C_3-C_6 -cycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and

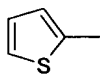
s is 0 or 1;

wherein when s is 0, $(L^2-B)_s$ is -H or halo, and A and B are independently optionally substituted with 1-3 moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, $-NO_2$, $-CO_2H$, -CN, $-C(O)-NH_2$, $-SO_2-NH_2$, or $-C_0-C_3\text{-hydrocarbyl}-Y-(C_1-C_3\text{-hydrocarbyl})$ wherein Y is a covalent bond, $-O-C(O)-$, $-C(O)-$, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-SO_2-$, $-C(O)-NH-$, or $-NH-C(O)-$; and each alkyl moiety is optionally mono- to per-halogenated.

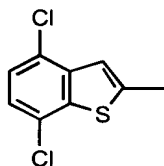
8. (original) The compound according to claim 7 wherein R^3 is H and R^1 is



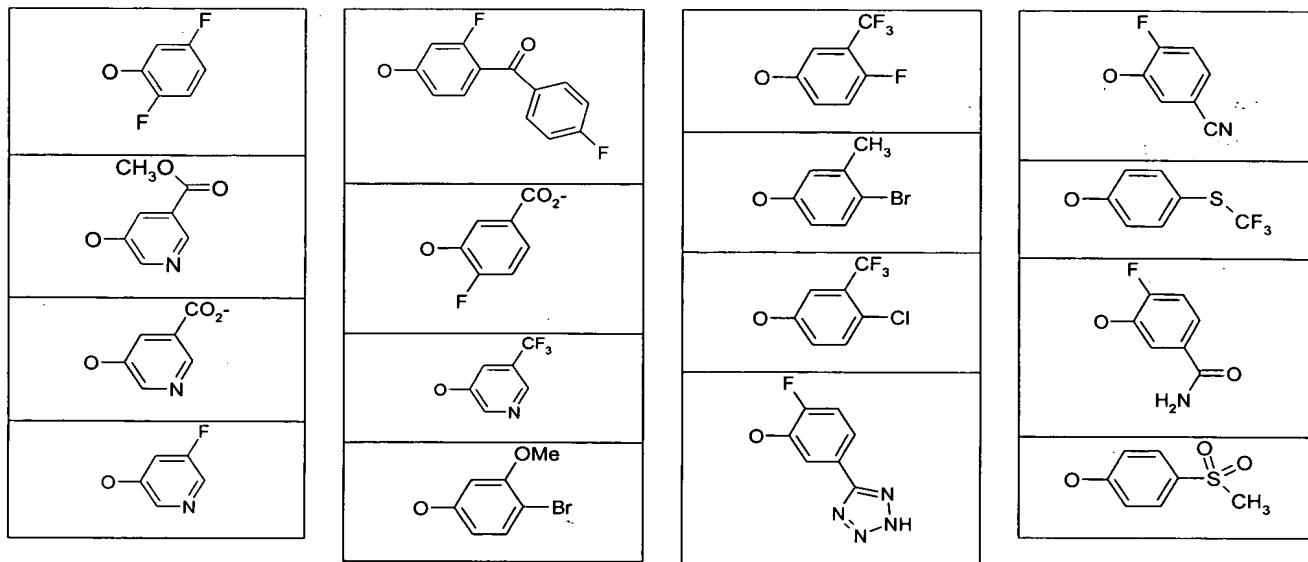
9. (original) The compound according to claim 7 wherein R^3 is $-CO_2Et$ and R^1 is

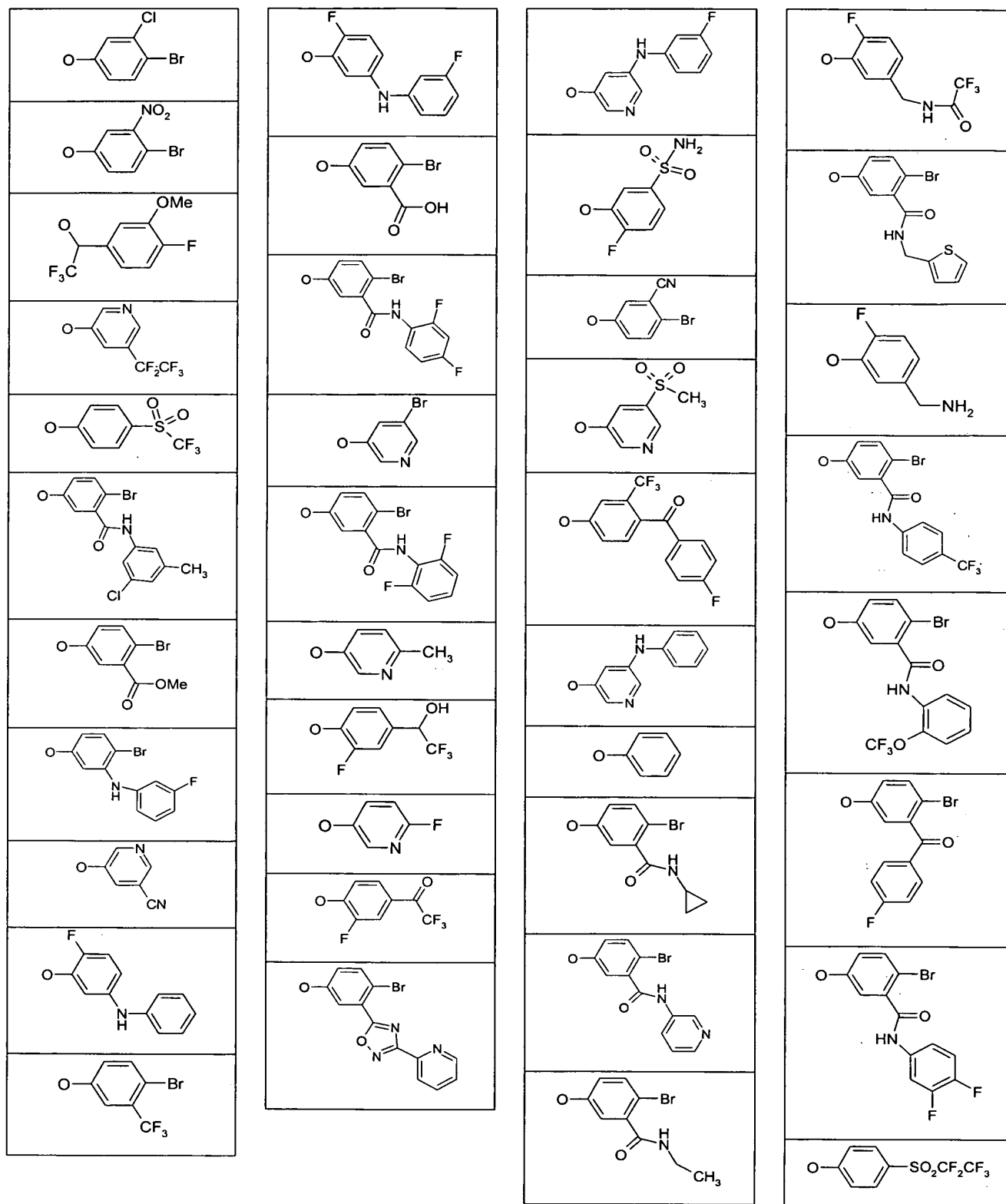


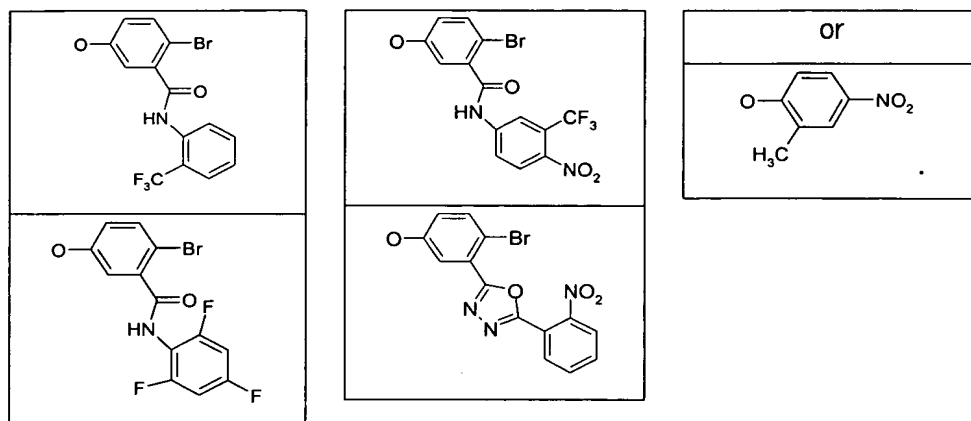
10. (original) The compound according to claim 7 wherein L^1 is $-O-$ and A is phenyl or pyridinyl, each optionally substituted, R^3 is H and R^1 is



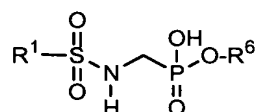
11. (original) The compound according to claim 10 wherein A is pyridin-3-yl.
12. (original) The compound according to claim 11 wherein s is 0.
13. (original) The compound according to claim 11 wherein s is 1 and L² is -C(O)-, -C(O)NH-, -NH-, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, or 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl and B is phenyl, pyridinyl, cyclopropyl, or thienyl, wherein B is optionally substituted.
14. (original) The compound according to claim 13 wherein the substituents on the A and B rings are independently selected from -F, -Cl, -Br, -CO₂H, -C(O)O-CH₃, -CF₃, -OCH₃, -OCF₃, -CH₃, -CN, -C(O)NH₂, -S-CF₃, -SO₂CH₃, -NO₂, -CF₃CF₃, -SO₂CF₃, -SO₂CF₃CF₃, and -SO₂NH₂.
15. (original) The compound according to claim 8 wherein one or both of the following are true:
 - a. A is selected from phenyl and pyridinyl;
 - b. B is selected from phenyl, tetraazolyl, cyclopropyl, pyridinyl, and thienyl.
16. (original) The compound according to claim 9, wherein R⁶ is phenyl or p-nitro phenyl.
17. (original) The compound according to claim 8 selected from those in which -O-R⁶ is





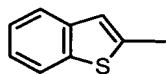


18. (original) A compound of formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

R^1 is



optionally substituted with 1-3 moieties independently selected from the group consisting of -F, -Cl, -Br, -CO₂H, -C(O)O-CH₃, -CF₃, -OCH₃, -OCF₃, -C₁-C₆ alkyl, -CN, -C(O)NH₂, -S-CF₃, -SO₂CH₃, -NO₂, -CF₃CF₃, -SO₂CF₃, -SO₂CF₃CF₃, and -SO₂NH₂;

R^6 is -L¹-A-(L²-B)_s, wherein

L¹ is C₀-C₃-alkyl optionally mono- to per-halogenated;

A is C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

L² is a covalent bond or (C₀-C₃-hydrocarbyl)-X¹-(C₀-C₃-hydrocarbyl), wherein X¹ is -C(O)-, -NH-, -NH-C(O)-, -C(O)-NH-, or heteroaryl;

B is -H, C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and

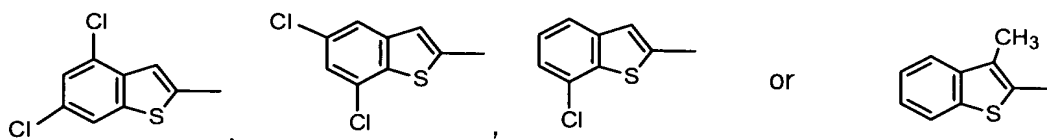
s is 0 or 1;

wherein when s is 0, (L²-B)_s is -H or halo, and A and B are independently optionally substituted with 1-3 moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, -CF₃, -NO₂, -CO₂H, -CN, -C(O)-NH₂, -SO₂-NH₂, or -C₀-C₃-hydrocarbyl-Y-(C₁-C₃-hydrocarbyl) wherein Y is a covalent bond, -O-C(O)-, -C(O)-, -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -C(O)-NH-, or -NH-C(O)-; and each alkyl moiety is optionally mono- to per-halogenated.

19. (original) The compound according to claim 18 wherein R^6 is phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$, $-CO_2H$, $-CN$, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-SO_2NH_2$, or $-C_0-C_3$ -hydrocarbyl- Y -(C_1-C_3 -hydrocarbyl), wherein Y is a covalent bond, $-O-C(O)-$, $-C(O)-$, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-SO_2-$, $-C(O)NH-$, or $-NH-C(O)-$, and each alkyl moiety is optionally mono- to per-halogenated.

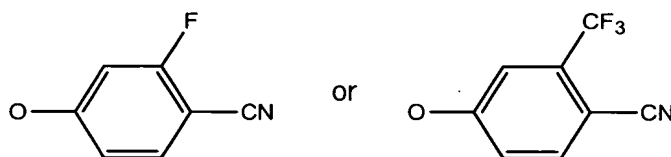
20. (original) The compound according to claim 19 wherein R^1 is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 moieties independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br and C_1-C_6 alkyl.

21. (original) The compound according to claim 20 wherein R^1 is

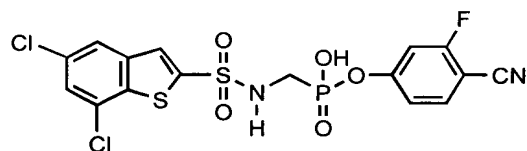


22. (original) The compound according to claim 19 wherein R^6 is phenyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, $-CF_3$, and CN.

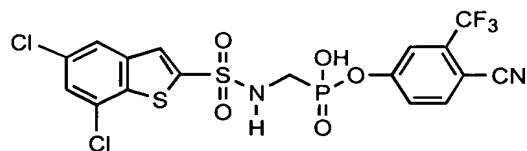
23. (original) The compound according to claim 22 wherein the compound is selected from those in which $-OR^6$ is;



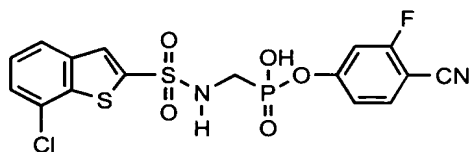
24. (original) The compound according to claim 18 having the structure:



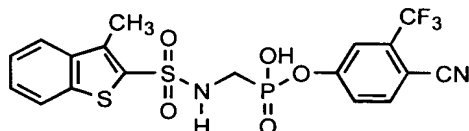
25. (original) The compound according to claim 18 having the structure:



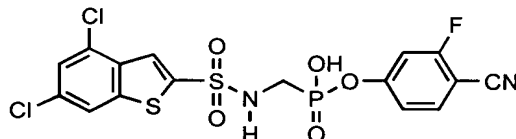
26. (original) The compound according to claim 18 having the structure:



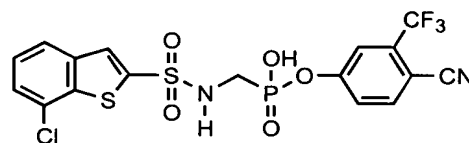
27. (original) The compound according to claim 18 having the structure:



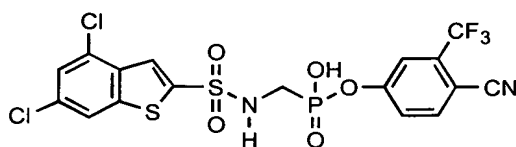
28. (original) The compound according to claim 18 having the structure:



29. (original) The compound according to claim 18 having the structure:



30. (original) The compound according to claim 18 having the structure:



31. (currently amended) A composition comprising the compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 30~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
32. (currently amended) A method of inhibiting β -lactamase, the method comprising contacting a cell with a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 30~~.